

§ 1215.5

who is secured in a child restraint system) does not have a safety belt properly fastened about the individual's body.

(b) A State that enacts the law specified in paragraph (a) of this section will be determined to comply with 23 U.S.C. 153, provided that any exemptions are consistent with § 1215.5.

(c) If New Hampshire or Maine enacts a law described in paragraph (a) of this section by January 27, 1996, the State shall be deemed as having that law in effect on September 30, 1995.

(d)(1) If the Secretary certifies in a fiscal year that New Hampshire or Maine has achieved the safety belt use rate specified in paragraph (d)(2) of this section, the State shall be considered as complying with the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) The safety belt use rate must be not less than 50 percent in each of fiscal years 1995 and 1996, and not less than the national average as determined by the Secretary in each fiscal year thereafter.

[61 FR 28749, June 6, 1996]

§ 1215.5 Exemptions.

(a) Safety belt use laws exempting persons with medical excuses, persons in emergency vehicles, persons in the custody of police, persons in public and livery conveyances, persons in parade vehicles, persons in positions not equipped with safety belts, and postal, utility and other commercial drivers who make frequent stops in the course of their business shall be deemed to comply with 23 U.S.C. 153.

(b) Safety belt use laws exempting vehicles equipped with air bags shall be deemed not to comply with 23 U.S.C. 153.

(c) An exemption not identified in paragraph (a) of this section shall be deemed to comply with 23 U.S.C. 153 only if NHTSA and FHWA determine that it is consistent with the intent of § 1215.4(a), and applies to situations in which the risk to occupants is very low or in which there are exigent justifications.

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§ 1215.6 Review and notification of compliance status.

Review of each State's laws and notification of compliance status shall occur each fiscal year, in accordance with the following procedures:

(a) NHTSA and FHWA will review appropriate State laws for compliance with 23 U.S.C. 153. States initially found to be in non-compliance will be notified of such finding and of funds expected to be transferred or reserved (as applicable) under § 1215.7, through the advance notice of apportionments required under 23 U.S.C. 104(e), normally not later than ninety days prior to final apportionment.

(b) A State notified of non-compliance under paragraph (a) of this section may, within 30 days after its receipt of the advance notice of apportionments, submit documentation showing why it is in compliance to the Associate Administrator for State and Community Services, NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C., 20950.

(c) Each fiscal year, States determined to be in non-compliance with 23 U.S.C. 153 will receive notice of the funds being transferred or reserved (as applicable) under § 1215.7, through the certification of apportionments required under 23 U.S.C. 104(e), normally on October 1.

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§ 1215.7 Transfer of funds.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, if at any time in a fiscal year beginning after September 30, 1994, a State does not have in effect a law described in § 1215.4(a), the Secretary shall transfer 3 percent of the funds apportioned to the State for the succeeding fiscal year under 23 U.S.C. 104 (b)(1), (b)(2) and (b)(3) to the apportionment of the State under 23 U.S.C. 402.

(b) For New Hampshire or Maine, except as provided in § 1215.4(c), if at any time in a fiscal year beginning after September 30, 1994, the State does not have in effect a law described in § 1215.4(a), the Secretary shall reserve 3 percent of the funds to be apportioned to the State for the succeeding fiscal year under 23 U.S.C. 104 (b)(1), (b)(2)